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PART VI.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Order No. G. 9378-432—P. P. 134-18-26, dated 25th November 1918.

In Government Order No. G. 16084-134—G. M. 644-17-1, dated the 27th May 1918, the Government appointed a Controller of Civil Supplies and Prices in Mysore with the following functions:—

(i) To watch the prices of food grains and other necessaries of life in the State in all important trade centres and to watch the movement of trade in such commodities by way of large exports and imports;

(ii) to advise Government immediately as to the measures to be taken for the maintenance of the supply of commodities of general use for the purpose of securing the public safety under the Rules issued with Notification No. J. 4039—Legis. 15-17-4, dated the 3rd April 1918, and other enactments in force so that the commodities for control may be at once specified and the necessary notifications may issue for controlling stock and prices;

(iii) to receive and examine applications from merchants and others for the movement of traffic in the State and take needful action in consultation with the local Railway authorities;

(iv) to suggest measures to prevent the cornering and holding up of stocks;

(v) to make proposals wherever necessary, to open shops whether by Government, or preferably by local bodies, at which articles of necessity would be sold at a fair price;

(vi) to take necessary action to keep the general public informed of the arrangements made and when prices have been fixed or supplies made available by Government at fixed rates, to see that the prescribed conditions are complied with; and generally,

(vii) to suggest action to be taken by Government to secure the objects in view, as may be necessary from time to time under the Defence of India Regulation, No. I of 1918.

2. Subsequent to the issue of the order, several instructions have been given from time to time during the past several months, to regulate the work of controlling the supply of certain commodities and the prices thereof, under the new agency created. A large number of notifications have also been issued under the Defence of India Regulation, I of 1918, and the rules framed thereunder, to fix prices, restrict exports, for opening depots in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore for the sale of ragi to the poor and other allied matters. After reviewing the food situation, Government have recently issued an elaborate order laying down the instructions necessary for taking an accurate and detailed food census in the State. They have appointed a Food Controller to work in co-ordination with the Director of Civil Supplies and ordered the appointment of local advisory committees of non-officials and merchants in the districts. Subsidiary instructions have been issued in an Official Memorandum regarding the commandeering of food stuffs and certain provisional rules regarding the taking of stock have been published with instructions to the Revenue Commissioner to amplify and issue them finally for the guidance of local officers, prescribing the necessary forms and registers. A sum of Rs. 10,000 has also been placed at the disposal of Deputy Commissioners for the purpose of commandeering stocks. In exercise of the powers vested in Government, they have also published a notification fixing maximum wholesale prices in the several district areas, of paddy, rice, ragi and jola. Subsequently, the Deputy Commissioners have been requested to take immediate action to commandeer stocks of food grains urgently wanted, without waiting for the details of census to be completed; and, for the purpose of compelling stockholders to declare their stocks within a fixed time a notification has been issued under the Defence of India Regulation, *vide* Appendix I. The Food Controller, the Director of Civil Supplies and the Deputy Commissioners are now requested to carefully study all the orders on the subject and the further instructions hereunder issued for their guidance in conducting the operations to control the food situation until further orders. The instructions will be liable to be revised according to emergency or altered conditions from time to time; and those now issued should, so far as they do not modify or supersede previous orders, be followed in conformity with the directions already given in the several Government orders and memoranda referred to above.

3. Under Government Order dated the 11th November 1918, the Food Controller has been placed under the orders of the Revenue Commissioner, who is made responsible for the supervision and direction of all food supply arrangements within the State. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to keep himself in close touch with the Deputy Commissioners in regard to commandeering operations as well as the food census and see that all the orders connected with these two branches of work are strictly carried out. He will submit for the consideration of Government forthwith, after consulting the Food Controller and the Deputy Commissioners, if necessary, a scheme for assuming some control over the crops that are being harvested and will be harvested during the next few weeks. It is necessary that all export of such crops should be absolutely prohibited and it is therefore desirable either to buy up on behalf of Government all the paddy and ragi that may be harvested in the State or to introduce some measure under which their export outside the State may be effectively prevented. The Revenue Commissioner is requested after personal inspection of important centres where large stocks are held, to check the taluk and district returns carefully and supervise the commandeering operations of the Deputy Commissioners of Districts, with a view to see that undue hardships may not be caused and normal requirements of the villages for three months are not in any way interfered with, and that proper calculations as regards a year's supply for individuals are made before any stock is taken over. The Revenue Commissioner is also requested to superintend the cash transactions in the districts as far as possible and ensure, by obtaining quick returns, the recoupment of all advances given to the Deputy Commissioners and the Food Controller. The Deputy Commissioner is authorised to exercise his discretion in the matter of employing local agencies of merchants or societies for the distribution of grain after the stock is commandeered in the several centres. Details as to the arrangements that may be made with the merchants for such distribution in local areas will be left to the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner, who will be guided by the rules framed by Government in this behalf and published as Appendix II to this order.

The Revenue Commissioner will be given the disciplinary power of removal and suspension over all the temporary executive and ministerial staff sanctioned by Government for the commandeering and stock-taking operations.

4. The duties and functions of the Food Controller will be as follows:—

(1) He will be responsible for the distribution of all available stock in the State to the different districts in accordance with the rough statement of requirements which will be separately communicated to him, under a monthly programme as fixed therein during the next three months, which will be liable to revision at the end of this period.

(2) He will be directly in charge of and responsible for the proper management of the provincial depots to be opened forthwith in Bangalore, Mysore and Tumkur where sufficient stocks of rice and ragi should be kept in order to facilitate the distribution of these food grains to the two Cities and the Deputy Commissioners according to their requirements indicated in the statement referred to above.

(3) He will take charge of all the stock of rice imported from outside as soon as it is delivered by the Director of Civil Supplies and be responsible for its proper distribution.

(4) He will control the traffic of food grains from district to district according to the three months' programme provisionally fixed and no Deputy Commissioner will be competent to move grain from his district to another or to import grain from another district into his district without the approval of the Food Controller. To exercise such control, the Food Controller will secure necessary transport facilities through the Director of Civil Supplies.

(5) The Food Controller will be ultimately responsible for the successful management of the commandeering operations, keep complete statistics of all the stock commandeered in the different surplus taluks of the State, make necessary arrangements for opening depots, if need be, at the taluk and district headquarters to store and distribute food grains from such centres.

(6) The Food Controller will be given an advance of three lakhs of rupees for transactions relating to his provincial depots and will take timely action for the recoupment of such advances within fixed but limited periods, submitting to Government weekly statements of disbursements and recoupments. He will be authorised to incur incidental expenditure under purchase of bags, hiring of special conveyances, carts, etc., engaging railway waggons for transport of food grains according to urgent demands from place to place.

(7) The Food Controller will be authorised to call for any information from the Deputy Commissioners direct and freely tour about in the districts to keep in close touch with the commandeering and stock-taking operations. He will inspect the taluk and the district depots as often as possible, generally control the arrangements for the supply of food grains from these depots either through merchants or other local agencies, as indicated in the instructions now issued.

(8) The Food Controller will have control over all exports of food grains from the State and will countersign all priority certificates that may be issued by the Director of Civil Supplies to merchants within or outside the State for the export of such commodities. In this connection he will, in consultation with the Inspector-General of Police, devise such measures as will effectually stop all exports excepting those authorised by specific Government Orders.

(9) The Food Controller will be responsible for supplying to the Director of Civil Supplies such quantities of food grains for exports to British Districts as have been agreed to and see that nothing in excess of those requirements goes out of the State on any pretext whatsoever. A confidential statement of such requirements will be furnished to the Food Controller by the Chief Secretary to Government.

5. The duties and functions of the Director of Civil Supplies will be as follows:—

(1) The Director, in consultation with the Revenue Commissioner, will advise Government regarding the prices of essential food grains from week to week with a view to see whether the notification under the Defence of India Regulation requires any modification or not.

(2) The Director will be responsible for all arrangements connected with the import of rice from Burma, the Madras Presidency and other parts of India.

(3) The Director will issue priority certificates for regularising sanctioned exports and for traffic from the provincial depots to the districts after ascertaining in advance all the requirements from the Food Controller and the Deputy Commissioners and keep Government informed of the arrangements made by him for the transport day to day.

(4) The grain depots now under his control and the establishments thereunder sanctioned by Government from time to time shall be transferred to the Food Controller together with all transactions current for the supply of grains to different centres and the accounts connected therewith within seven days from the date of this order, after which, the Director of Civil Supplies will have nothing to do with the buying of grain inside the State for State requirements.

(5) The Director will be responsible for the timely export of food grains due from the State according to the sanctioned scheme and take charge of the quantity from the Food Controller once a week.

(6) The Director will be authorised to receive and examine applications from merchants for transport within the State and for the movement of traffic generally and to issue certificates for traffic in respect of commodities other than paddy, rice, ragi and jolam.

(7) The Director will prohibit or restrict the movement of such commodities as are non-essential in order to facilitate the movement of food grains, especially rice and ragi, and at all times will comply with the requisitions of the Food Controller under the latter head.

(8) A statement of priority certificates issued by him every day should be submitted to Government, copies thereof being forwarded to the Revenue Commissioner and the Food Controller for their information.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS.

6. (1) The Deputy Commissioners are directly responsible for the commandeering operations and will be authorised to utilise the District Economic Superintendents, Sub-Division Officers and Amildars for such work and a notification has been issued investing these officers with the necessary powers.

(2) The Deputy Commissioners will be responsible for the prevention of unlicensed export of ragi and rice from their districts; the circular memorandum dated the 24th August will be considered as cancelled. Under no circumstances will the Deputy Commissioners issue licenses for the export without consulting the Food Controller.

(3) The Deputy Commissioners will be personally responsible for the proper working of Ookads and inspect them as often as possible obtaining additional staff, if any required, from the Inspector-General of Police regarding patrol and *bandobasth* as may be deemed necessary from time to time.

(4) The Deputy Commissioners will be responsible for all district headquarter depots and for the issue of permits for traffic by road either from village to village or taluk to taluk or from villages to recognised *santhes*.

(5) The Deputy Commissioners will be responsible for the correct preparation of stock accounts of their district, a proper tabulation of all village and talukwar statements prepared on receipt of the declarations that are made by stock-holders in pursuance of the notification issued.

(6) The Deputy Commissioners will be responsible for the equitable distribution of stocks within their districts as well as distribution of imported rice after it is handed over by the Food Controller to deficit taluks. They will also be responsible for the delivery of surplus stocks commandeered in their districts for the deficit taluks of other districts on the requisition of the Food Controller.

(7) The Deputy Commissioners will maintain correct day to day accounts of the disbursements made out of the advance of Rs. 25,000 which will be placed now at their disposal for commandeering stocks and submit to Government a weekly statement thereof taking particular care to see that advances are recouped promptly as soon as the grain is distributed.

(8) The Deputy Commissioners will be responsible for the depots at district head-quarters which will be placed in the direct charge of their Personal or Treasury Assistants.

(9) The Deputy Commissioners will be responsible for the preparation of consolidated returns for their districts under food census and transmission of the same to the Revenue Commissioner's Office not later than the 15th of December.

AMILDARS.

7. (1) The Amildars of taluks will be responsible for the accurate estimate of stocks being prepared in the first instance before commandeering operations are taken. Any hardships caused by erroneous estimates on their part under this head will be seriously noticed.

(2) They will be responsible for making at once a correct forecast of the next harvest under paddy, ragi and jola.

(3) The Amildars will be responsible for the preparation of the talukwar statement of food census after collecting the villagewar statement from the Patels so as to ensure their submission within the due date.

(4) The Amildars will be directly in charge of the taluk depots, if any, opened in their taluks directly under Government management.

The Amildars will be given an imprest of Rs. 500 for commandeering operations and for emergent expenses, which will be placed at their personal debit for recoupment in due course and as promptly as possible under the rules.

8. Government are pleased to sanction the following appointments and additional establishments to facilitate prompt despatch of work as indicated above :—

(1) Mr. Abdul Aziz Khan is appointed Assistant to the Food Controller.

(2) „ B. S. Ranoji Rao is appointed Assistant to the President, City Municipality, Bangalore, in addition to his own duties.

(3) „ C. Lakshmana Rao is appointed Personal Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga.

(4) „ Abdul Hukh will be appointed Personal Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, on relief from his present duties.

(5) „ E. H. Thomson is appointed Personal Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan.

The Revenue Commissioner is authorised to depute competent Taluk Sheristedars or other officers of the Police, Excise and Registration Departments as Food Inspectors. The Inspector-General of Police, the Excise Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Registration will be requested to comply with the Revenue Commissioner's requisitions in this respect as far as possible.

9. A revised list of maximum prices will now be issued, *vide* Appendix III, superseding the notification dated 12th November 1918. The Food Controller is authorised to take over harvested crops at the prices thus fixed wherever possible with a view to increase the stock available for distribution to deficit taluks.

Care has been taken in issuing the revised notification to fix the retail as well as wholesale prices and also the prices at which Government can commandeer stocks and to give the description of sorts under rice. The attention of the Deputy Commissioners and the other local officers is invited to these details, and to the fact that sufficient margin has been provided for to admit of incidental expenses as well as merchants' profits being met in fixing the wholesale and retail rates. The Deputy Commissioners are requested to see that, when commandeering stocks, the sanctioned prices are paid forthwith and not within a week as indicated in the previous orders.

10. A revised set of rules to supersede the provisional rules printed as appendix to Government order dated 11th November 1918 is also issued. *Vide* Appendix IV.

11. A memorandum giving clear instructions to all officers in respect of commandeering operations is also issued. *Vide* Appendix V.

The commandeering operations should at present be confined to the following taluks :—

Tumkur District.—Tumkur, Gubbi and Kunigal.
Bangalore District.—Bangalore, Dodballapur, Hoskote and Kankanhalli.
Kolar District.—Malur, Bowringpet, Kolar and Chintamani.
Hassan District.—Hassan, Arsikere and Arkalgud.
Mysore District.—Heggaddevankote, Hunsur and Mysore.
Kadur District.—Kadur and Tarikere.
Shimoga District.—Shimoga, Tirthahalli and Channagiri.
Chitaldrug District.—Davangere, Harihar, Holalkere and Hosdurga.

12. A special grant of Rs. 1,000 will be made to the Deputy Commissioners for disbursements under rewards for the detection of illicit traffic in food grains as well as for information regarding concealment of stocks. The Deputy Commissioners and Food Controller are now authorised to give rewards up to Rs. 100 in each case and the Revenue Commissioner is authorised to give rewards up to Rs. 250 in each case. The system of rewards should be widely published for the information of all concerned.

13. With a view to keep a strict watch over disbursements from the advances given to the Food Controller and the Deputy Commissioners, it is necessary to exercise some centralised check by Government. The Financial Secretary is therefore requested to occasionally go on tour and personally scrutinise the advance accounts submitting notes of inspection to Government for their information, any undue delay being brought to notice for special action.

14. As regards the import of rice from Burma, Madras and other parts of India, the Director of Civil Supplies is requested to submit a clear statement of the present situation showing the stock in hand, the stock already purchased and expected to arrive during the next one month and further purchases ordered as likely to be required. He is also requested to make detailed enquiries regarding the chartering of a steamer from Rangoon.

15. The requirements of the different parts of the State, *viz.*, the eight districts and the two City Municipalities, have been carefully considered by Government and the arrangements made to supply the requisite quantities in respect of each minus locality will be separately communicated to the officers concerned. All the officers concerned are requested to take due care and necessary advance measures to see that the arrangement is strictly adhered to during the next one month; and the Director of Civil Supplies is requested to distribute the imported rice, make the necessary intra-State arrangements for their transport in accordance with the requisitions of the Food Controller.

16. Government hope now that definite responsibilities have been fixed for all grades of officers and detailed instructions issued under each item of work, supervising authorities will see that those instructions are carefully carried out and they will bring to the notice of Government any violation or abuse in any respect whatsoever, which will be severely dealt with. They are also requested to note the good work done by any individual officer or group of officers working under them. Government will be glad to take due notice of such work at the conclusion of these operations.

C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To—The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
The Financial Secretary to Government.
The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.
The Excise Commissioner in Mysore.
The Inspector-General of Registration in Mysore.
The Comptroller to Government.
The Food Controller in Mysore.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Director of Civil Supplies.
The Heads of other Departments.

APPENDIX I.

Notification No. G. 9336—P. P. 134-18-20, dated 23rd November 1918.

In supersession of Government Notification No. G. 8945—P. P. 134-18-9, dated 16th November 1918, and in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 3 B (2) (*a*) of the rules issued under the Defence of India Regulation, I of 1918, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja are hereby pleased to direct that all owners of paddy, rice, ragi, jolam and navane, who have in their possession or control any stock in excess of 2 pallas of rice, ragi, jolam and navane and 4 pallas of paddy shall, by the 10th December 1918, furnish particulars of such stock, in the form hereunder prescribed, to the Amildar or Deputy Amildar in whose jurisdiction the stock is held. In Municipal areas, the declaration shall be made to the President and handed over to such officer or officers as the President may authorise in this behalf. In rural tracts, the returns shall be handed over by the declarant to the village patel who will arrange to forward them to the taluk office with a consolidated list. Illiterate persons who cannot write their returns may apply to the shanbhog who shall write the return for them free of cost.

Any person who omits to make the return within the prescribed date or makes a false return will be liable to be prosecuted and sentenced to imprisonment for a term extending to three years or fine or both.

FORM OF DECLARATION.

I hereby declare that the following is a true and correct account of the stock of the undermentioned food grains held by me, in my possession or under my control.

Particulars of food grains.	*Quantity held in pallas of 100 seers.*
Paddy	
Rice	
Ragi	
Jolam	
Navane	

Signature (or mark attested by a witness.)

By Order,
C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Chief Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX II.

Notification No. G. 9337—P. P. 134-18-21, dated 23rd November 1918.

In exercise of the powers vested by sub-rule (2) (a) and (b) of Rule 3 B of the Rules issued under the Defence of India Regulation, I of 1918, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja are hereby pleased to issue the following rules for regulating the transport and sale of certain food-grains in the State:—

RULES FOR REGULATING THE TRANSPORT AND SALE OF CERTAIN FOOD GRAINS.

Rice, Paddy, Ragi, Jola, and Navane.

1. Every person other than a licensed dealer having in his possession or under his control 5 pallas of ragi, rice, jolam or navane or 10 pallas of paddy shall maintain a correct account of the stock held by him and of its disposal from time to time. The account shall be open for inspection at any time by any officer of and above the grade of Deputy Amildar. A monthly return of the stock showing the receipts and disposals during each month and the balance at the end of the month shall be furnished by him (i) in Municipal Towns, to the President or other officer named by him in this behalf and (ii) in non-municipal areas, to the Amildar or Deputy Amildar through the patel of the village.

2. No person shall be allowed to transport from one village, taluk or district to another village, taluk or district, ragi, rice, jolam and navane in excess of 1 palla or paddy in excess of 2 pallas except with the permission in writing of the officers mentioned below:—

(i) *From one village to another in the same taluk.*—The Amildar or Deputy Amildar of the Taluk or Sub-Taluk or other officer whom the Government may authorise him to nominate in this behalf.